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Application No.: 09/760,285
Office Action Dated: November 26, 2004

PATENT
REPLY FILED UNDER EXPEDITED
PROCEDURE PURSUANT TO 37 CFR § 1.116

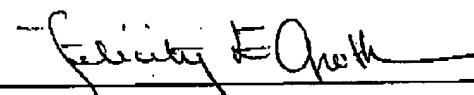
REMARKS

Claims 1, 4-13, 22-24, 26, 68, 70, 72-82, and 84 are pending in the application. Claims 1, 23, and 72 are amended to clarify that exposure of a plant cell or yeast cell to an inhibitor of mismatch repair renders the cell hypermutable. Claim 26 is amended to provide clear antecedent basis in claim 23. Applicants submit that the amendments made herein neither narrow the scope of the claims nor introduce new matter.

Applicants note with appreciation the teleconference conducted by the examiner with the undersigned on March 15, 2005. During the teleconference, the examiner indicated that the amendments submitted February 28, 2005 have been entered and that the amendments made herein for purposes of clarity would be favorably considered in placing the claims in condition for allowance.

Applicants respectfully request an early Notice of Allowance. If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, the undersigned may be contacted at 215-557-5908.

Respectfully submitted,



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Date: March 16, 2005

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